

PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

The objective of the Lafayette Parks and Recreation Department is to provide residents the opportunity to participate in activities in a wholesome environment in which they can experience leisure time and to assist in promoting entertainment, pleasure, relaxation, and other physical and mental development.



Gerald Boudreaux

Photo by Robin May

The department brings families and friends together as they enjoy parks, playgrounds, recreation centers, and other athletic/recreation facilities. The task of upkeep and maintenance of the ten multi-purpose/recreation centers, four swimming pools, three golf courses, nature station/campground, and 36 parks is coordinated by the staff and hundreds of volunteers. By working together

with the volunteers, civic groups, and program participants, the department has avoided any reduction in programming, closure of any facilities, or the interruption of service during the past year.

In addition to the athletic programs offered by the Lafayette Parks and Recreation Department, other programs offered by the department include the arts, karate, gymnastics, dance, exercise, tutoring/homework assistance, and others. These activities are provided to the public at minimal cost.

The department continues to keep as a high priority the expansion of therapeutic activities and programs. This section deals with those most in need in our community including, but not limited to, individuals with disabilities, as well as programs for our senior citizens. A summer camp is conducted annually by the department to provide extended educational and recreational opportunities for the participants.

The various centers may be rented for special events such as wedding receptions, family reunions, graduation parties and dinners, and sporting events. Approximately 500,000 people attended these special events during the calendar year ending December 31, 2011.

In 2011, the staff continued to improve the features available to residents to provide recreational opportunities for everyone. Some of the highlights are listed below:

2011 YOUTH PARTICIPATION NUMBERS ATHLETIC PROGRAMS

	Teams	Participants
Basketball (Boys)	149	1,192
Basketball (Girls)	34	272
Basketball (All-Stars)	45	450
Teener Basketball	6	60
Tri-Star Basketball		26
Track & Field (LRPD)		5,500
Track & Field (Hershey Local)		850
Track & Field (Hershey State)	19	490
Spring Soccer	195	2,145
Baseball (LRPD)	270	3,240
Baseball (American Legion)	7	106
Softball (Slowpitch League)	78	936
Fastpitch	33	396
All-Stars Baseball (Softball)	62	750
Summer Swimming		6,200
Football Tackle	30	900
Punt, Pass & Kick (Local)		70
Punt, Pass & Kick (Regional)		55
Flag Football Teener	33	394
Dr. Pepper Cajun Cup Soccer	80	1,000
Snicker's State Cup Soccer	21	380
Pelican Cup Soccer	27	302
Soccer Cajun Classic	107	1,200
Fall Soccer	223	1,959
Fall Baseball	17	170
Youth Volleyball	57	456
Youth Flag Football	56	560
High School Swim League	33	500
Swim Meets		7,100
Junior Golf Clinics		500
Junior Tennis Clinics		900
School Tennis Leagues		500
Youth Coaches Clinics		180
Youth Officiating Clinics		65
Special Olympics Swimming		45
Special Olympics Track & Field		1,700
Totals:	1,582	41,549



The Fall 2011 Coed Adult Soccer Champions pose for a team photo.

PARKS MAINTENANCE (in dollars)

J.W. James Park	Installed wave rider slide	\$5,000.00
Carencro Park	Asphalted the parking lot	\$150,000.00
Brown Park	Installed horseshoe pits, pedestrian bridge, and two pavilion covers	\$22,000.00
Heymann Park	Constructed new bathroom	\$150,000.00
Beaulieu Park	Constructed new bathroom and walking track	\$250,000.00
Veterans Park	Installed pavilion cover	\$8,000.00
Clark Field	Grandstand improvements	\$150,000.00
Fabacher Field	Installed two pavilions and a swing set	\$19,000.00
Total:		\$754,000.00

Registration revenues provide an important funding source for the department. While the revenues do not cover the costs of the entire Parks and Recreation Department, the revenues do assist in making the programs possible.

REGISTRATION REVENUES

Athletics and Summer Enrichment Program	\$257,000.00
Facility Rentals Revenues	\$188,000.00
Swimming Revenues	\$49,000.00
Campground Revenues	\$47,000.00
Tennis Revenues	\$37,000.00
Instructor Revenues	\$60,000.00

	HEBERT	LES VIEUX CHENES	WETLANDS
Revenues	\$483,000.00	\$826,500.00	\$975,000.00
Rounds	17,163	40,212	26,000

2011 ADULT PARTICIPATION NUMBERS

	Teams	Participants
Basketball (Men's)	57	570
Basketball (Women's)	9	108
Co-ed Volleyball	6	40
Spring Soccer	16	279
Fall Soccer	16	243
Flag Football (Fall)	24	360
Flag Football (Spring)	21	252
Disc Golf Tournaments	7	650
Tennis League & Tournament Play		8,000
Totals:	156	10,502